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PATENT
177079-00087IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Phyllis Leithem et al.
Serial No. : 09/334,125
Filed : June 15, 1999
Title : ABSORBENT PRODUCTS AND
METHODS OF PREPARATION
THEREOF
Group Art Unit : 3761
Examiner : Dennis Ruhl

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-60 and 63-65 without prejudice.

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.121(c)(1), please rewrite the following claims to recite:

Sub 61. (amended) A method for making an absorbent composite useful for personal hygiene articles which comprises: treating a wood fiber pulp containing wood fibers with a base at a temperature ranging from 15° C. to about 60°C. thereby forming a treated wood fiber pulp containing wood fibers; fluffing the treated wood fiber pulp to form an absorbent sublayer material comprised of fluffed base-treated wood pulp; providing at least one fluid permeable topsheet layer and at least one substantially fluid impermeable backsheet layer; and interposing the sublayer material between the topsheet layer and the backsheet layer.

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